

Solutions Table – Industry Small Group
DRAFT Recommendation Language
November 11, 2019

The forest products industry is vitally important to the state's economy and, in particular, to the health and vitality of much of Washington's rural communities. The state has recognized the importance of the industry by including forest products as one of the key industries with a sector program within the Department of Commerce.

The industry is experiencing a period of rapid changes in markets, in technology, and in product development. Accordingly, it is timely for the Department of Commerce to partner with all sectors of the forest products industry – landowners, manufacturers, universities - to develop a new strategic plan to identify specific action steps that lead to growth and development in the sector. Conceptual ideas include:

- Define the Dept. of Commerce's goals and performance metrics to: (this list can certainly be modified):
 - Increase demand for Washington's Wood products
 - Encourage use of wood products from Washington's sustainably managed public and private forests
 - Encourage and fund R&D to bring new innovative wood products to market
 - Identify opportunities for state programs and facilities to pilot the use of new Washington wood products
 - Be a clearing house of connecting and promoting the use of wood, and new wood products, in state building projects.
 - Sponsor "Wood Fair" to bring various products to the attention of state and federal agencies.
 - Working to locate new capacity
- Document goals and performance metrics for the forest products sector program
- Establish a Steering Committee to review progress and determine program adjustments.